

Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices 135 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333 (207)287-4179 Website: www.maine.gov/ethics

### 42-Day Post-Primary FILING REMINDER

### Campaign Finance Report Due July 24, 2012

REPORT	DEADLINE	REPORT PERIOD
42-Day Post-Primary Report	Tuesday, July 24, 2012	May 30 through July 17, 2012
	by 11:59 p.m.	
REMEMBER:	Any expenditure reported in a 24-Hour Report, must be entered and reported in the 42-Day Post-Primary Report. The 24-Hour Report and the 42-Day Post-Primary Report are two separate reports.	

All candidates are required to file campaign finance reports electronically except candidates who submitted an e-filing waiver. Reports are filed electronically on the Commission's website. Go to www.maine.gov/ethics and click "Filer Login." Electronic-filing instructions can be found on the Commission's website or you can request a copy to be mailed to you.

For candidates filing on paper, the Commission's fax machine operates 24 hours a day. However, staff will be available only until 5:00 p.m. on 7/24/2012 to confirm receipt of a faxed report and to offer assistance and answer questions about filing reports.

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### Filing Tip: View/Print Report

Before clicking the "File Report" button, review the entire report to ensure accuracy. Use the "View Print" button on the "Report Menu" screen.

### View/Print Report

### Filing Tip: Return to Home Page After Filing Report

If your report was filed correctly, a new screen will appear which displays two buttons — "Print Page"

and "Return to Home Page." Whether you print the filed receipt or not, go to your Home Page to check the status of your report. The status will display as "Filed."

REPORT TYPE REPORTING PERIOD **DUE DATE** DATE FILED 1/19/2012 2:13:32 PM **Candidate Registration** 11/3/2010 4/27/2012 4/20/2012 4/27/2012 3:43:17 P

STATUS LAST MODIFIED 20/2012 10:43:56 AM Filed 4/28/2012 5/29/2012 6/1/2012 6/1/2012 11:20:38 PI Filed 11-Day Pre-Primary (MCEA) 7/17/2012 5/30/2012 7/24/2012 In-Progress **42-Day Post Primary** 42-Day Pre-General 7/18/2012 9/18/2012 11-Day Pre-General 9/19/2012 10/23/2012 10/26/2012 10/24/2012 42-Day Post-General 12/11/2012 12/18/2012

CAMPAIGN YEAR 2012

 Select one schedule at a time to add new transactions or to amend old transactions. All information will be stored and the report will be 'in-progress' until you file the report. You may also use this page to view or print schedules.

Select All	No Activity on Schedule	Amende
Cover Page		
Interest Earned	•	
Schedule A Cash Contributions	•	
Schedule A-1 In-Kind Contributions	•	
Schedule B Expenditures		
Schedule D Unpaid Debts and Obligations	•	
Schedule E Campaign Equipment/Property Inventory	•	
Schedule F Summary Section		

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View/Print Report

Print

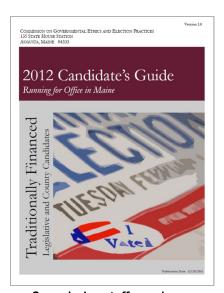
Print

Print

Print

# See the 2012 Candidate Guide for information on closing out your campaign:

Pages 39-41



Commission staff are always available to answer your questions: Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. 207-287-4179

## Candidates Defeated in the Primary Election: Closing Out Your Campaign

The 42-Day Post-Primary Report is the *last* report of your campaign *if* your cash balance is \$100 or less and you do not have any unpaid debts or outstanding loan balances exceeding \$100.

If you have a cash, debt or loan balance of <u>more than \$100</u>, you will have to file semiannual reports every January 15th and July 15th until the cash balance, loan or debt is disposed of or is reduced to \$100 or less. The first semiannual report is due January 15, 2013.

To close out your campaign with the filing of the 42-Day Post-Primary Report, you need to do the following on or before July 17, 2012:

- Reduce your cash balance (surplus cash) to \$100 or less see page
  A9 of the 2012 Candidate's Guide
- Reduce your outstanding loan balance to \$100 or less by forgiving and/or paying down the balance—see page 40 of the 2012 Candidate's Guide; and
- Reduce the balance of your outstanding debt to \$100 or less by making payments using your personal funds, or asking the creditor to make an in-kind contribution (contribution limits apply)—see page 40 -41 of the 2012 Candidate's Guide for a complete explanation.

Surplus cash amounts greater than \$100 may not be converted to your personal use and must be disposed of according to Maine Election Law within 4 years of the 2012 primary election. See pages 39 - 40 of the 2012 Candidate's Guide for a list of acceptable ways to dispose of your surplus cash.

### Using E-Filing to Identify Reporting Errors

You've probably seen the three buttons at the bottom of your Home Page and have not yet click on them to download an Excel file.



Creating an Excel file of your contributions and expenditures is a great tool to use when reconciling bank and report balances and in finding reporting errors.

To create an Excel file of all contributions you have entered into the e-filing system from the beginning of your campaign, click "Download Contributions A." Click "Download Expenditures B" to get a file for all your expenditures. The Excel files include contribution and expenditure information in "Filed" and unfiled reports.

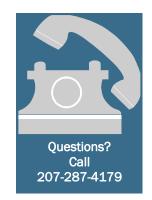
### Benefits of "Exempt Goods and Services"

In Maine Election Law, there are "exempt goods and services" that are excluded from the legal definition of "contribution." As a traditionally financed candidate, you can receive these goods and services without receiving a contribution.

Contributors who have given you \$350 for the general election—the maximum contribution amount for the election—can continue to support you by using these exemptions for certain goods and services.

A list of exempt goods and services can be found in the Appendix of the 2012 Candidate's Guide pages A1 and A2. Examples are:

- A volunteer may pay up to \$100 (in each election) toward the cost of food, beverages and invitations for a house party or a campaign event. With enough volunteers, your campaign could hold events at no cost to your campaign.
- A volunteer may use their own funds up to \$100 in an election for campaign-related travel without having the campaign make reimbursements. This exemption helps to reduce travel costs for the campaign.
- A trade association, business, labor union, or an individual may donate office space to your campaign, provided that there are no additional costs. If there are additional costs—telephone, utilities, etc.—the campaign may reimburse the association, business, or labor union for these additional costs and still accept the use of the office space at no cost.



### **Anonymous Contributions: \$10 or less**

Anonymous contributions of more than \$10 may not be accepted. If you are planning a spaghetti supper, barbeque, or picnic as a fundraiser and are asking for a "suggested donation"—make sure that the donation amount for the event is \$10 or less/person *if you do not want to obtain the name and address of the attendees.* If the amount/person is over \$10, your campaign must obtain the names and addresses of all attendees.

### Reporting Error: Negative Cash Balance

Traditionally financed candidates who are self-funding all or part of their campaign can either:

- (1) enter an expenditure made for their campaign as an in-kind contribution on Schedule A-1 (one entry) or
- (2) enter the expenditure on Schedule B and a corresponding contribution in the same amount on Schedule A (two entries).

A negative cash balance on the Summary Schedule of a report is usually caused by (2) above—where the expenditure was entered but the corresponding contribution was not. Before filing your report, check line 7 of the Summary Schedule—it should not be negative.

### CONTRIBUTION RECORDS

For all contributions over \$10, candidates are required to keep a record of the date and amount of the contribution, and the name and address of the contributor. A record of the contributor's occupation and employer is also required for contributions over \$50.





42-Day Post-Primary Report Deadline: July 24, 2012 by 11:59 p.m.

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Insportant Reminderi Tips to Help with Reportsi

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> Location: 45 Memorial Circle, Augusta, Maine

COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENTAL ETHICS AND ELECTION PRACTICES